

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 16 - SB 230

February 24, 2021

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Creates the *Teacher's Discipline Act*. Establishes a process authorizing teachers to request the removal of students from classrooms, which provides notice to applicable students and an appeal process for teachers whose removal requests are denied. Requires each public charter school governing body to adopt various policies regarding student discipline. Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Education (DOE) to submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly on the implementation and compliance of this Act beginning on or before February 1, 2023. Effective January 1, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (003959): Deletes and replaces language in the original bill to specify that only teachers who are trained in evidence-based behavior supports are authorized to manage the teacher's classroom, discipline students, refer a student to the principal, and hold students accountable for any disorderly conduct in school. Adds additional criteria required to be included in each student discipline policy adopted by a local board of education or public charter school.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Tennessee Code Annotated § 49-6-4008 and § 49-6-4102 currently authorize teachers to relocate students for safety reasons, to use reasonable and justifiable force if deemed necessary, and to hold every pupil accountable for any disorderly conduct in schools.
- The proposed legislation limits certain actions to only those teachers who are trained in evidence-based behavior supports, creates a detailed process for a student's removal from the classroom, and establishes new reporting requirements.

- Public schools and public charter schools will be able to comply with the requirements of the proposed legislation within existing resources; therefore, any fiscal impact to local government is estimated to be not significant.
- DOE will comply with the additional reporting requirements utilizing existing staff and resources; therefore, any fiscal impact to state government is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bojan Savic". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bojan Savic, Interim Executive Director

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